

2. Four weeks ago my younger brother died. He was thirty-five years old. He had a cancer in his stomach. (The brother here referred to has been an invalid at the home of the writer of this letter. The expense of his sickness and death is the cause of the paragraph preceeding.—L. S. B.)

3. Our little baby girl.—she is very sick. We think that today or tomorrow she will go to heaven to see her dear Saviour

Dear brother, it is true, all these are very hard to the human nature. There is no one who can comfort us except the Holy Spirit.

Otherwise, I am very glad to know that you have such a good desire to take the Foreign Mission field. I wish if you could come to Persia. We will work both together among the Mohammedans and Jews. O dear brother, how happy we should be to see you and your good wife and your sweet baby in my home. And more happy I should be to go both together to preach the precious Gospel to the lost souls.

Now, dear brother, I have nothing to say any more. Please remember me to Sister Bauman, to your church members at Philadelphia, I should be very glad to hear from you as soon as possible I am lovingly, your brother in Christ.

BABILLA SHUMMON.

The above letter was received by me on the 17th of September, being exactly one month on its long journey. Following the letter read at Conference, it will speak for itself. At the request of some good brethren, a letter is now on the way to Bro. Shummon to ascertain definitely the extent of his sympathy with our church. To correct some wrong impressions that have gone out, I want it distinctly understood that this man has never thru me, or, so far as I know, thru any other man, written for a single dollar to carry on his glorious mission. His only plea has been that God would open up a way for the education of his boy in America and in our faith. For this, his requests have been more directly to individuals than to any church. My last letter to him expressed a fear that I would be unable to help him to his desire, at present. The above letter in answer shows a faith that is proof against all disappointments and discouragements. Let it be remembered that at Conference I stepped into the missionary circle and spoke of him, not thinking for a moment that some good brethren would take up his cause. I did not ask it and he did not. What the church missionary society or others may do, they do upon their own responsibility. This man or his work will be pushed upon none.

So far as I am concerned, in spite of the fears and discouraging words of some of our conservative brethren, whose enthusiasm for foreign missions wouldn't push them ten feet out on the salty brine,—so far as I am concerned, I believe Babilla Shummon to be a man after God's own heart,—a man whose love for the lost is instilled into the bosoms of our own preachers would bring a very Pentecost in our ranks,—a man whose devotion to the gospel sends him into the most dangerous and neglected spots of earth, at the risk of his own life, telling the beautiful story, winning for himself a crown that shall shine as the stars forever and ever. May God break down the barriers and hasten the day when I can go to him, to work, to toil, and to rest at last beneath the nodding lillies of that far away foreign clime. We are making no plea and shall ask an over-burdened (?) church for nothing. We simply bide the time of our God, as did Paul when from Judea's hills his heart went out to pagan Rome.

And to you, my brother, a light indeed in a darksome land, as this paper, no doubt, will finally come to your hand, I send again my greeting. Toil on and God will answer your prayers in behalf of your kinsmen in the flesh.

Dear Brother Shummon, "God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers;—making request, if by any

means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come to you. For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end that ye may be established; that is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.

Now, I would not have you ignorant, brother, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was led hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles. I am debtor both to the Greeks and to the barbarians; both to the wise and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are in Persia, also."

LOUIS S. BAUMAN.

2121 N. Carnac St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Sergeantsville, N. J.

No services will be held in the Brethren Church for two weeks as our pastor has been called to McVeytown, Pa., to help the mission cause and to attend the missionary conference in Western Pa., and also the state conference at Altoona, Pa. May the Lord bless his work.

The funeral of Brother Joseph Woodruff was held in the German Baptist Church known as the "Amwell" on Sept. 15. Sermon by our pastor from John 18:37. "To this end was I born." (Jesus.) Brother Woodruff was a consistant member of the Brethren Church and had been sexton there for over forty years. He was seventy-three years of age and leaves a wife and two children to mourn their loss.

C. B. F.

Bryan, Ohio

We have nothing very great to report other than we are looking forward to next month, the 4th of October when Bro. Louis Bauman will be with us to help hold our meeting, we hope and pray that each one will be ready to do and to say only what will advance the cause and that we all may learn more perfectly the secret of a higherh Cristian life.

I am glad that I had the privilege to be at "our best conference," if only more could be induced to attend.

The Holsinger History has been received, and through that we have learned many things we wanted to know and to our best satisfaction.

MELVIN D. KERR.

To Our Friends and Relatives

The wide scope of our relations, the acquaintance and fellowship which we formed while in other pastorates, is such that we have not the time to write personal letters to all who have requested us to do so, in regard to the condition of our dear companion who is now lying in the hospital in Cincinnati. Thru the permission of our editor I take this method of answering your inquiries.

Thru the advice of a physician, on Sept. 16th we boarded the train for Cincinnati, O. We arrived at the private hospital of Dr. Rufus B. Hall about six o'clock in the evening. After supper an examination was made, he confirmed the decision of her former physician, by saying "you have two ovarian tumors and an operation is the only remedy." The operation was performed on the following Thursday by the above named surgeon. And as far as we know and can understand the operation was successfully performed. We stayed by her side until the fifth day after the operation, until she was pronounced out of danger. Never, never, do we wish to be called on to endure an ordeal of this kind again. Sept. 19, 1901 will be a day never to be forgotten. While the operation was being performed we walked the floor and prayed that God might permit her recovery that we might spend a few more years together in this life in his service. Her health has been on the decline for several years and especially in the last few. The care and treatment which she receives at the hands of Dr. Hall and his nurses is such that bespeaks for him that he is willing to do

what lays in his power for the relief of suffering humanity. At this writing she is doing well in every respect. But at the best it will be necessary for her to remain in the hospital five or six weeks.

We heartily thank the many who have remembered us in their prayers. We still hope and pray that she may continue improving. We can now as never before, sympathize with those who have had like experiences. Brethren remember us in your prayers.

S. B. GRISSO.

Falls City, Nebra.,

We cannot say that we have fully recovered from the demoralizing effects of the summer's heat. Some of our best members have not yet returned, but new life begins to throb in our veins. The fire enkindled at conference is burning and ere long will illuminate and warm other hearts. Our last services at Silver Creek were the best attended of any since we began regular services there. Last Sunday evening we devoted the time to reports on the conference and its work. After the pastor had given a brief history of our conferences and the good which has grown out of them, closing with a summary of the last and best conference, he gave the floor to our worthy lay preacher, whose eloquence thrilled the conference and drove the whole tribe of preachers into voting a good strong Prohibition Resolution. His theme was, "The Mission Work of the Conference." Right well did he tell it. Never failing to drive a nail where needed to make the great work of missions hold to the hearts and minds of his hearers. The meeting was greatly enjoyed by those present. The members were strengthened, enthused and quickened to greater love and service for Christ thru the church. I use the last phrase advisedly. There are many people today who think to serve Christ without regarding the church. Paul reminded the Corinthian church that some among them were condemned because they discerned not the Lord's body. He who separates himself from his brethren and so from the church will soon separate himself from Christ. "For if ye love not your brother whom ye have seen how can ye love God whom ye have not seen?" Such people are deceived by the devil making them believe that they are so much better in conduct and more righteous in character than their brethren. All such feeling is selfrighteousness which in God's sight is equal to idolatry. "No idolater shall inherit the Kingdom of God."

Next sunday evening we expect to organize the Young People into a Christian Endeavor Society of the Brethren church. We are looking forward to this occasion as the beginning of a new era in the history of our Young People. An era of greater service and fuller consecration to the Master. Our young people have been doing well but we can do still better. Brother Talley will be with us for a ten days study of the blessed word of God. (See program.) We anticipate not only a good meeting but a deepening and strengthening of our spiritual life.. We do not wish to simply know the word but we want also to assimilate it that we may grow thereby. We desire to be good that we may do good. Pray for us. The Lord's blessing be with earnest, faithful workers everywhere.

L. W. DITCH.

Notice

The Pan-American Exposition is now at its best and in connection with the great Niagara Falls is well worth seeing. I will entertain brethren or others who write me thru this notice for \$1 a day each. This includes comfortable lodging with use of room at all times, bath, toilet, etc. Write a few days before coming.

JOHN E. STRAYER.

107 Barton St., Buffalo, N. Y.